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COMIC SHOP NEWS

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

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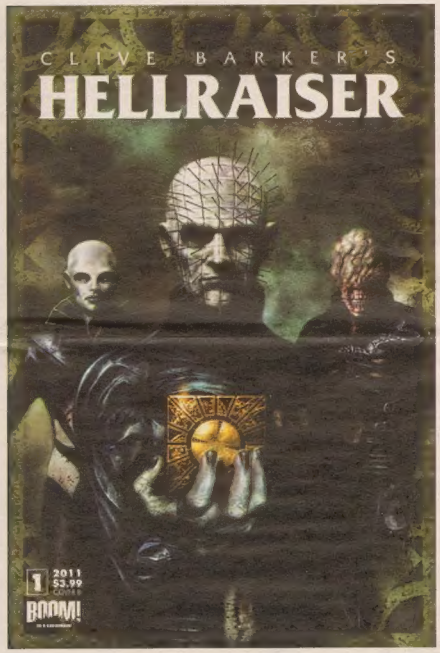
Clive Barker Raises Hell—Again!

It was more than twenty years ago that best-selling horror/fantasy author *Clive Barker* (in conjunction with Marvel Comics) first brought his splatterpunk ***Hellraiser*** to comics —but in 2011, history will repeat itself as Barker resurrects ***Hellraiser*** for a new publisher.

This March, Boom Studios will introduce Barker's disturbing vision to a new generation of readers with the debut of the new ***Hellraiser*** ongoing series. Even better, ***Hellraiser*** will be written by *Clive Barker* himself, along with co-writer *Christopher Monfette* and artist *Leonardo Manco*, along with cover artists *Tim Bradstreet* and *Nick Percival*—and variant cover artist *Clive Barker!*

At the same time, Boom will launch a comprehensive reprinting of those hard-to-find Marvel ***Hellraiser*** tales in ***Hellraiser Masterworks***. To call attention to the first volume (also slated for March release), Boom is expanding ***Hellraiser #1*** to forty pages and adding a reprint story from their ***Hellraiser Masterworks*** line: a story by ***The Matrix*** co-writer and co-director *Larry Wachowski*.



"Beyond being a legendary creator of all things macabre, *Clive Barker* is truly an amazing individual and I'm proud to be able to work with him on reviving one of his most celebrated creations with ***Hellraiser***," said editor-in-chief *Matt Gagnon*. "I've known Clive for years, but this is the first chance we've had to work together and I couldn't be more excited. It's been unbelievably gratifying to develop this series and witness the visceral, relentless, and shocking story that Clive has in store for a new generation of horror fans."

While ***Hellraiser*** is one of Barker's best-known concepts, readers might be surprised to learn that the author has "touched" ***Hellraiser*** only twice before: once to write ***The Hellbound Heart*** (the original ***Hellraiser*** novella), and once more to write and direct the original ***Hellraiser*** film. Now, with the ***Hellraiser*** ongoing series, witness Barker returns to his fictional creation to tell a new chapter in the series' official continuity—a chapter that will forever change the Cenobites... and Pinhead!

Hellraiser Masterworks reprints hard-to-find tales by such acclaimed creators as *Neil Gaiman, Mike Mignola, Alex Ross, John Bolton, Larry Wachowski, Kevin O'Neill*, and others.

Hellraiser #1 is slated for mid-March release; to commemorate the series' return to comics, Boom and *Clive Barker* are offering a limited 1-for-50 incentive cover both illustrated and hand-signed by Barker. ***Hellraiser Masterworks Volume One***, the first volume in a comprehensive reprinting of the entire Marvel ***Hellraiser*** run, is also scheduled for mid-March release.

Krueger, Templesmith, & Calore Join the Corps

In the past few years, Image has offered several music-inspired comics, including projects based on the works of *Tori Amos, Sebastian & Belle, Spearmint*, and *Coheed & Cambria*. But their upcoming oneshot ***The Kill Corps*** marks the first time that Image has released a music-inspired comic to act as a lead-in to the debut musical release from the group of the same name.

SoCal metal band The Kill Corps is set to release its debut album on Virgin Records in the summer of 2011, but the ***Kill Corps*** oneshot will reach comic shop sin March, courtesy of writer *Jim Krueger* and artists *Ben Templesmith & Dennis Calero*.

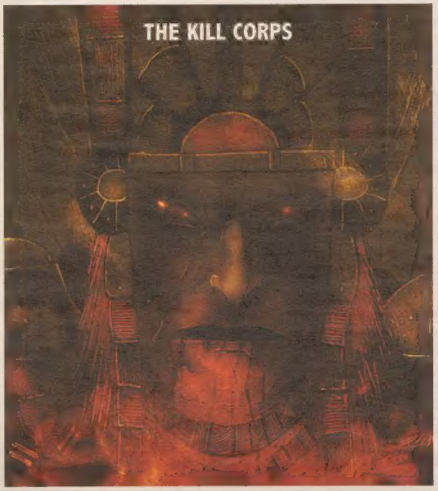
The book will be offered in two formats. The 32-page version includes a download code for the band's first single, "Save Me," while expanded 48-page version includes a download code for the four-track self-titled EP ("Save Me," "Sticks and Stones," "Crash Burn Die," and "Cannibal Romance"), concept art, and bonus images from Templesmith and Calero.

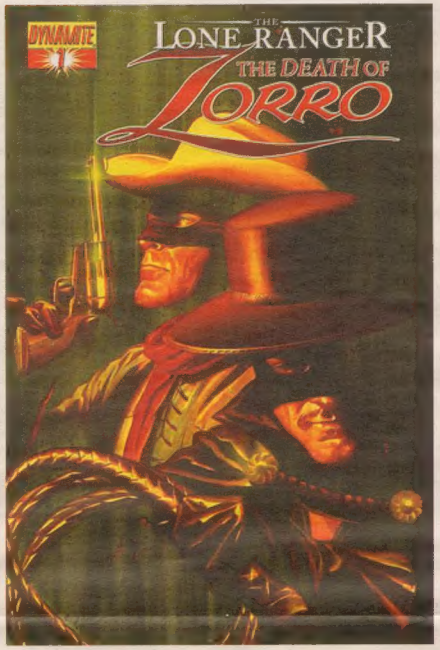
The vicious story behind the comic is born from The Kill Corps' notorious live show experience and the upcoming debut album. ***The Kill Corps*** follows a team of mercenaries who unwillingly become the instruments of destruction in an evil deity's plot to dominate mankind. Transported to a war-torn Hell dimension, the team must fight their way through every brutal era in human history to gain their freedom and save humanity.

"The Kill Corps' music is a demon straight from hell, snuggling up against you, wanting to tell you a secret, then screaming in your ear," artist *Dennis Calero said*.

"I rarely get the opportunity to go as dark and crazy as I did on ***Kill Corps***," Krueger added "If I were you, I would check this out with an extra pair of pants handy, 'cause it'll scare the **** out of you!"

The Kill Corps, a full-color oneshot slated for mid-March release, will be offered in a $2.99 32-page version (which includes the aforementioned single download code) and a $5.99 48-page version (which includes the four-song EP download code).





Could This Be... Z End?

Zorro and the Lone Ranger—two classic heroes of the Old West. Each of them has a decades-long history in pulps, comic strips, films, television series, and comics... but until now, the two have never met.

That's about to change, courtesy of Dynamite Entertainment and Classic Media (the global media company that controls the rights to both heroes). ***The Lone Ranger: The Death of Zorro*** brings the two heroes together... but if the title is correct, their meeting isn't a cause for celebration!

One of comicdom's first and greatest heroes, Zorro, will fall in battle, sacrificing his life to save his people. Upon learning of this tragedy, the future hero of the Wild West, The Lone Ranger, steps up to avenge the death!

Written by *Ande Parks*, the first issue will also feature covers by *Alex Ross* and professional wrestling icon-turned-artist, *Jerry "The King" Lawler*, as well as *Francesco Francavilla* and *Tom Yeates*! The comic is scheduled to arrive in stores in March 2011.

"This series is a really exciting opportunity for me," Parks said. "Not only do I get to write two truly legendary American heroes, but I get to write a defining moment for one of them... his death.

"Zorro is one of the most iconic heroes of all time, and it is

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

an incredible honor that Zorro is partnered with another legendary hero, The Lone Ranger," *John Gertz*, the President & CEO of Zorro Productions, Inc, said. "This comic is a must-read for fans of both Zorro and The Lone Ranger!"

"This series isn't just about the death of Zorro, though. It's about the enormous legacy that he leaves behind. When a hero dies, he leaves behind a legion of people that have been touched by his deeds. In this case, Zorro's legacy has touched a young Lone Ranger. Unfortunately, the bad guys that have ended Zorro's life are a small but powerful army who plan on continuing to victimize the Native Americans Zorro was trying to help. Zorro's legacy, even as embodied by The Lone Ranger, may not be enough to defeat this army of renegade Civil War bushwhackers."

"Zorro and The Lone Ranger were two of the primary icons I had never gotten a chance to paint before, and I was excited to get the chance with such an important crossover," award-winning artist I said. "Of the designs I conceived, this is more of an intimate portrait-like shot, separating the two men by the subtlest of details."

"We are excited to partner with Dynamite Entertainment and Zorro Productions to bring together two of the greatest heroes in the comic world," said *Karyn Schneider*, VP, Licensing, Classic Media. "The Lone Ranger is America's favorite hero of the Wild West and has captured the hearts and imaginations of fans for generations. With the two characters' enduring legacies, this first crossover comic marks a memorable moment in comic book and pop-culture history, inspiring fans for many years to come."

"Dynamite has had tremendous critical success with our Zorro and The Lone Ranger books, written by *Matt Wagner* and *Brett Matthews* respectively, and are honored to be working with *Ande Parks* to tell this tale," Dynamite President Nick Barrucci added. "I am excited to see the responses from fans from both franchises in this crossover of these two renowned heroes!"

The Lone Ranger: The Death of Zorro #1, the kickoff issue of a five-part miniseries, is slated for March release.

Remender's Venomous Plans

We don't even know exactly who the new Venom is yet, but we can tell you that, whomever it might be, he's getting his own ongoing series from Marvel starting in March. ***Venom*** will be written by *Rick Remender* and illustrated by *Tony Moore;* the duo recently wrapped their run on ***Fear Agent*** at Dark Horse and brought their ***Franken-Castle*** series to an end , but they weren't ready to let their collaboration lapse.

""Due to the volatile nature of Project Venom, the Pentagon has come in and flagged some of my answers for security concerns," Remender revealed on the marvel.com site. "The enhanced, black ops agent Venom is charged with chasing a trail across the globe to uncover the man behind a plot to sell the world's dictators and terrorists weaponized *[the exact nature of what it is they're selling is kept secret by Marvel for now]*, all while juggling a double life, and a growing addiction to a symbiote that is constantly trying to take him over.

"The set-up for ***Venom*** originated with *[**Amazing Spider-Man** writer Dan] Slott* and *[editor Steve] Wacker*. Once they told me the basic concept, and who the main character would be, I was sold. International adventures of 00Venom—c'mon, that's good comic booking. Dan and I worked up a few ideas for supporting cast and rules for Venom and both went off to write. The initial set up issue will be by Dan in ***Amazing Spider-Man #654.1***—you won't want to miss that. Then the story picks up in ***Venom #1***."

As Remender explained, ***Venom*** combines espionage, brutal adventure, and even a touch of horror. "The tone merges the same brand of ferocious hardcore violence fans of Venom would expect with the international high-adventure of ***The Bourne Identity***, globe trotting from bleak Eastern European war zones to exotic Marvel Universe locations like the Savage Land," Remender said. "It's James Bond-style worldwide adventuring with high stakes espionage, intrigue, fast action, and an opening mission that holds the stability of the world in the balance."

While Remender won't say who Venom is, he does reveal that the new antihero "can only wear the suit a few days at a time and the assignment itself is finite, [as] for his own safety, he will one day be taken off Project Venom. The tension is only compiled by the stress of keeping his black ops missions secret from his loved ones, the classic Spider-Man villains he's set against, and the deep depression he begins to feel when separated from the suit..."

Remender is thrilled to be working with *Tony Moore* on ***Venom***. "If you know Tony's work from our last collaboration on ***Punisher*** or ***Fear Agent***, or his co-creation ***The Walking Dead***, or his run on ***Ghost Rider***, then you know the guy can do monsters, action, and distinctive tech like few others. And he's a world-class storyteller; he puts story before all else. But at his core, Tony is a monster guy—he loves creatures and it shows in his work. So putting him on ***Venom*** is a no-brainer in my eyes. And having seen his designs and some of the other stuff he's got coming up, I can say with total confidence, there isn't a better man for the job."

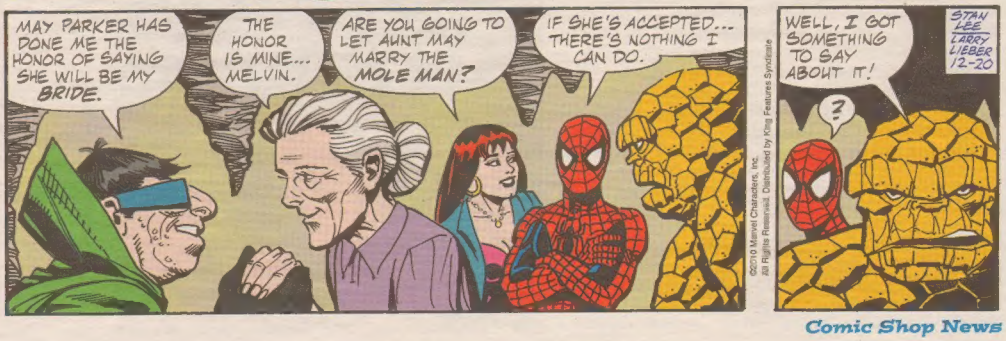
Venom #1, which features a stunning cover by Marvel EIC and CCO *Joe Quesada*, along with a variant cover from rising star *Paulo Siqueira*, is slated for March release.

Book 'Em, DC!

Over the past couple of decades, the collected edition has expanded from a relative rarity to a core component in every company's publishing plans. Leading the way is DC: the company has continually offered a mix of comprehensive classic reprint, contemporary storylines, fan-favorite series, and creator-focused collections.

Back in the fall, ***CSN*** told you what DC has in the works for early 2011; now we can share their plans for the late spring and summer, as DC has unveiled their offerings for May, June, July and August. The company warns that the information is not final and may be subjected to change, but here's what's on the slate at this time.

- ***Aquaman: Death of a Prince TP*** by *Steve Skeates, Paul Levitz, Mike Grell, Jim Aparo,* and others, collecting stories


SPIDER-MAN
BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER
MAY PARKER HAS DONE ME THE HONOR OF SAYING SHE WILL BE MY BRIDE.
THE HONOR IS MINE... MELVIN.
ARE YOU GOING TO LET AUNT MAY MARRY THE MOLE MAN?
IF SHE'S ACCEPTED... THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO.
WELL, I GOT SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT IT!
?
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 12-20
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from ***Adventure Comics #s 435-437, 441-455,*** and ***Aquaman #s 57-63.*** (June)

•***Arkham Asylum: Madness TP*** by *Sam Kieth,* a softcover version of the original graphic novel. (June)

•***Batgirl: The Flood TP*** by *Bryan Q. Miller, Lee Garbett, & Trevor Scott,* collecting ***Batgirl #s 9-14.*** (May)

•***Batman and Robin: Batman Must Die Deluxe Edition HC*** by *Grant Morrison, Frazer Irving, Cameron Stewart, David Finch, Batt, & Ryan Winn,* collecting ***Batman & Robin #s 13-16*** and ***Batman: The Return #1.*** (May)

•***Batman: The Brave & The Bold—Emerald Knight TP*** by *Landry Walker, Sholly Fisch, Eric Jones, & Robert Pope,* collecting ***Batman: The Brave & the Bold #s 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, & 21.*** (May)

•***Batman: Bruce Wayne—The Road Home HC*** by *Fabian Nicieza, dam Beechen, Ramon Bachs, Scott McDaniel,* and many others, collecting the eight ***Road Home*** oneshots. (July)

•***Batman: Imposters TP*** by *David Hine, Scott McDaniel, & Andy Owens,* collecting ***Detective Comics #s 867-870*** (August)

•***Batman: Knight & Squire HC,*** collecting the miniseries by *Paul Cornell & Jimmy Broxton.* (June)

•***Batman: Long Shadows TP*** by *Judd Winick, Mark Bagley, Ed Benes, & Rob Hunter,* collecting ***Batman #s 687-691.*** (May)

•***Batman: The Red Hood—The Lost Days TP*** by *Judd Winick, Jeremy Haun, & Pablo Raimondi,* collecting the six-issue miniseries. (June)

•***Batman: Streets of Gotham—Hush Money TP*** by *Paul Dini, Dustin Nguyen, & Derek Fridolfs,* collecting ***Batman: Streets of Gotham #s 1-4, Detective Comics #852,*** and ***Batman #685.*** (May)

•***Batman: Streets of Gotham—The House of Hush HC*** by *Paul Dini, Dustin Nguyen, & Derek Fridolfs,* collecting ***Streets of Gotham #s 12-14 & 16-20.*** (July)

•***Batman: Under the Red Hood TP*** by *Judd Winick, Doug Mahnke, Shane Davis,* and others, collecting ***Batman #s 635-641 & 645-650*** and ***Batman Annual #25.*** (August)

•***Tales of the Batman: Gene Colan Volume 1 HC*** by *Gene Colan* and others, collecting ***Batman #s 340, 343-345, & 348-351*** and ***Detective #s 510, 512, 517, & 529.*** (July)

•***Batwoman: Elegy TP*** by *Greg Rucka & J.H.Williams III,* collecting ***Detective Comics #s 854-860.*** (June)

•***Birds of Prey: Endrun HC*** by *Gail Simone, Ed Benes, Adriana Melo, Alvin Lee, and J.P. Mayer,* collecting ***Birds of Prey #s 1-6.*** (May)

•***Blackest Night TP*** by *Geoff Johns, Ivan Reis, Oclair Albert,* and others, collecting ***Blackest Night #s 0-8.***

•***Blackest Night: Green Lantern TP*** by *Geoff Johns, Doug Mahnke, Ed Benes,* and others, collecting ***Green Lantern #s 43-52.*** (July)

•***Blackest Night: Green Lantern Corps TP*** by *Peter Tomasi, Patrick Gleason, Rebecca Buchman,* and others, collecting ***Green Lantern Corps #s 39-46.*** (July)

•***Blackest Night: Black Lantern Corps Volume 1 TP*** by *James Robinson, Peter Tomasi, J.T. Krul, Eddy Barrow, Ardian Syaf, Ed Benes,* and others, collecting ***Blackest Night: Batman #s 1-3, Blackest Night: Superman #s 1-3,*** and ***Blackest Night: Titans #s 1-3.*** (July)

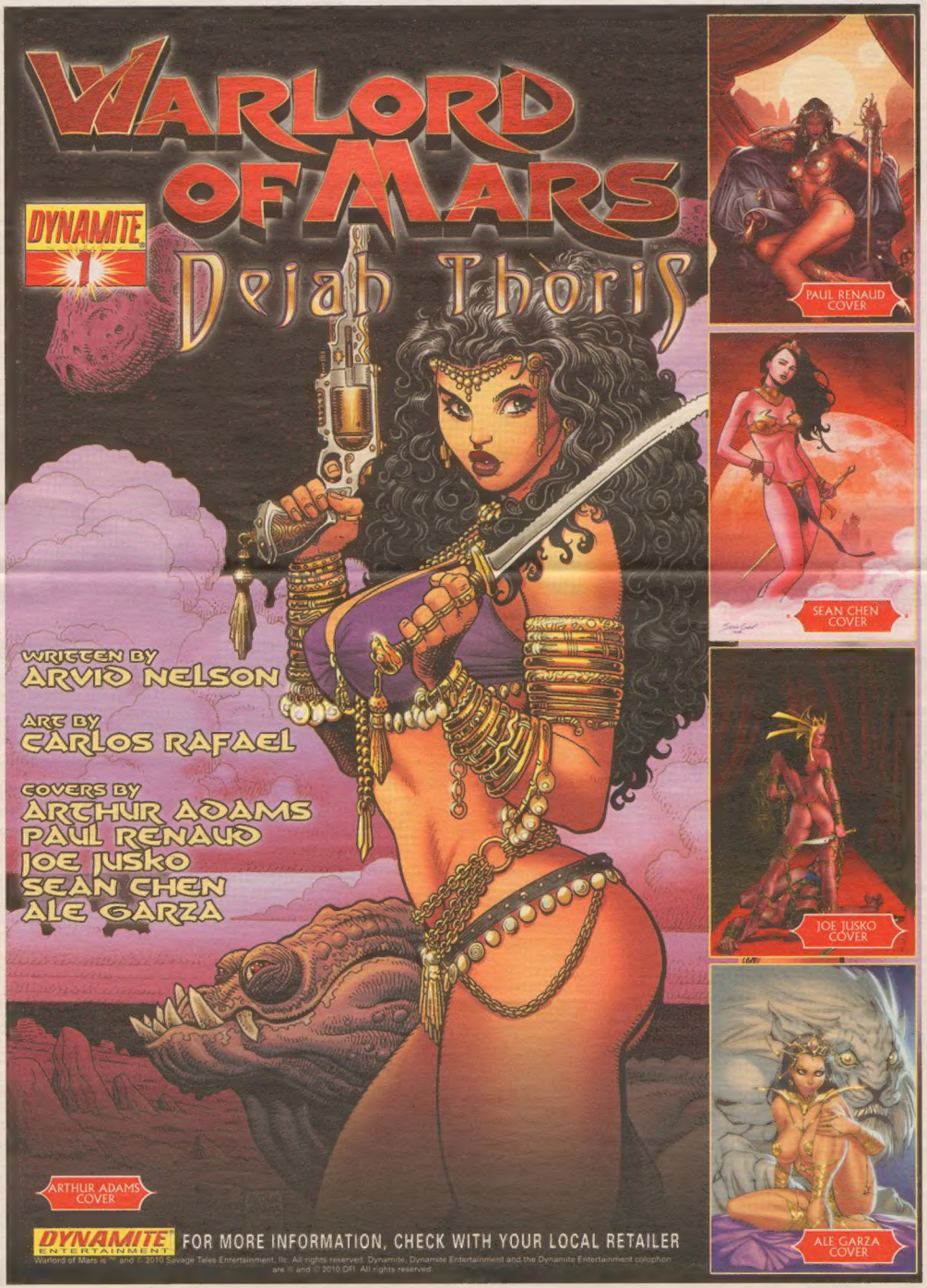
•***Blackest Night: Black Lantern Corps Volume 2 TP*** by *Geoff Johns, James Robinson, Greg Rucka, Scott Kolins, Eddy Barrows, Nicola Scott,* and others, collecting ***Blackest Night: JSA #s 1-3, Blackest Night: Flash #s 1-3,*** and ***Blackest Night: Wonder Woman #s 1-3.*** (July)

•***Blackest Night: Rise of the Black Lanterns TP*** by *Geoff Johns, James Robinson, Peter Tomasi, Ardian Syaf, Denys Cowan, Bill Sienkiewicz,* and others, collecting seven special resurrected issues of such dead series as ***The Atom & Hawkman, Catwoman, Starman,*** and others. (July)

•***Blackest Night: Tales of the Corps TP*** by *Geoff Johns, Peter Tomasi, Sterling Gates, Jerry Ordway, Rags Morales, Ivan Reis, Dave Gibbons,* and others, collecting ***Blackest Night: Tales of the Corps #s 1-3, Green Lantern #s 18-21 & 43, Green Lantern: Sinestro Corps Secret Files 2007,*** and ***Blackest Night #0.*** (July)

•***Brian Bolland Cover to Cover HC,*** a 208-page compilation of Bolland's outstanding DC cover art. (July)

•***Brightest Day Volume 2 HC*** by *Geoff Johns, Peter J. Tomasi, Ivan Reis, Patrick Gleason, Ardian Syaf, Scott Clark, & Joe Prado,* collecting ***Brightest Day #s 8-16.*** (May)



•***DC Universe: Legacies HC*** by *Len Wein, Scott Kolins, Andy Kubert, Joe Kubert, George Pérez, JH Williams III, Dave Gibbons, Brian Bolland, Keith Giffen, Walter Simonson, Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez, Jerry Ordway, & Dan Jurgens,* collecting ***DC Universe: Legacies #s 1-10.*** (August)

•***Deadman Volume 1 TP*** by *Arnold Drake, Jack Miller, Neal Adams, Carmine Infantino, Neal Adams, & George Roussos,* collecting ***Strange Adventures #s 205-213.*** (May)

•***Deux Ex TP*** by *Robbie Morrison & Trevor Hairsine,* collecting the six-issue miniseries. (August)

•***Doom Patrol: Fire Away TP*** by *Keith Giffen, Brian Keene, Matthew Clark, Ron Randall, & Al Milgrom,* collecting ***Doom Patrol #s 14-21.*** (August)

•***Firestorm: The Nuclear Man TP*** by *Gerry Conway, Al Milgrom, George Perez,* nd others, collecting ***Firestorm: The Nuclear Man #s 1-5*** and stories from ***Flash #s 289-293.*** (July)

•***First Wave HC*** by *Brian Azzarello, Rags Morales, & Phil Noto,* collecting ***Batman/Doc Savage #1*** and ***First Wave #s 1-6.*** (June)

•***The Flash Omnibus by Geoff Johns Volume 1 HC*** by *Geoff Johns* with *Scott Kolins, Angel Unzueta, Ethan Van Sciver, Doug Hazlewood, & Jose Marzan Jr.,* collecting ***The Flash #s 164-176, The Flash: Our Worlds at War #1, The Flash: Iron Heights,*** and ***The Flash: Secret Files #3.*** (May)

•***Freedom Fighters: American Nightmare TP*** by *Justin Gray, Jimmy Palmiotti, Travis Moore, & Trevor Scott,* collecting ***Freedom Fighters #s 1-6.*** (June)

•***Gotham Central Book Two: Jokers & Madmen TP*** by *Ed Brubaker, Greg Rucka, & Michael Lark,* collecting ***Gotham Central #s 11-22.*** (July)

•***Gotham City Sirens: Strange Fruit HC*** by *Tony Bedard & Andes Guinaldo,* collecting ***Gotham City Sirens #s 14-20.*** (July)

•***Green Arrow: Into the Woods HC*** by *J.T. Krul, Diogenes Neves & Vicente Sifuentes,* collecting ***Green Arrow #s 1-7.*** (July)

•***Green Lantern: Brightest Day HC*** by *Geoff Johns, Doug Mahnke, Shane Davis, & Christian Alamy,* collecting ***Green Lantern #s 53-62.*** (June)

•***Green Lantern: Emerald Warriors Volume 1 HC*** by *Peter Tomasi, Fernando Pasarin, & Cam Smith,* collecting ***Green Lantern: Emerald Warriors #s 1-7.*** (August)

•***Green Lantern Corps: Revolt of the Alpha Lanterns HC*** by *Sterling Gates, Tony Bedard, Ardian Syaf, Nelson DeCastro, Vicente Cifuentes, Derek Fridolfs, & Rob Hunter,* collecting ***Green Lantern Corps #s 21-22 & 48-52.*** (May)

•***Infinity Inc.: The Generations Saga Volume 1 HC*** by *Roy Thomas, Dann Thomas, Jerry Ordway, Todd McFarlane,* and others, collecting ***Infinity Inc #s 1-4, All-Star Squadron #s 25-26,*** and ***All-Star Squadron Annual #2.*** (June)

•***The Jack Kirby Omnibus Volume One Starring Green Arrow HC*** by *Jack Kirby* and others, collecting stories from ***Real Fact, House of Mystery, House of Secrets, Tales of the Unexpected, My Greatest Adventure, All-Star Western, Adventure Comics,*** and ***World's Finest Comics.*** (July)

•***Jonah Hex: No Way Back TP*** by *Justin Gray, Jimmy Palmiotti, & Tony DeZuniga,* a softcover edition of the original graphic novel. (May)

•***JSA All Stars: Glory Days TP*** by *Matthew Sturges, Freddie E. Williams II, Howard Porter, & Art Thibert,* collecting ***JSA All Stars #s 7-13.*** (May)

•***Justice HC*** by *Jim Krueger, Alex ross, & Doug Braithwaite,* collecting ***Justice #s 1-12.*** (July)

•***Justice League: Cry for Justice TP*** by *James Robinson & Mauro Cascioli,* collecting the seven-part miniseries. (June)

•***Justice League International Volume 6 TP*** by *Keith Giffen, J.M. DeMatteis, Bill Loebs, Adam Hughes, Bart Sears, Bill Willingham,* and others, collecting ***Justice League America #s 31-35*** and ***Justice League Europe #s 7-11.*** (May)

•***Kane & Lynch TP*** by *Ian Edginton & Christopher Mitten,* collecting the six-issue miniseries. (June)

•***Legion Lost HC*** by *Dan Abnett, Andy Lanning, Olivier Coipel, & Pascal Alixe,* collecting ***Legion Lost #s 1-12.*** (June)

•***The Mighty Crusaders TP*** by *J. Michael Straczynski, Matthew Sturges, Brandon Jerwa, John Rozum, Eric Trautmann, Tom Derenick, Bill Sienkiewicz,* and others, collecting the four ***Red Circle*** oneshots and ***The Mighty Crusaders Special.*** (May)

•***The New Teen Titans Omnibus Volume One HC*** by *Marv Wolfman, George Pérez,* and others, collecting ***DC Comics Presents #26*** and ***The New Teen Titans #s 1-16.*** (August)

•***Outsiders: The Great Divide TP*** by *Dan Didio, Philip Tan, & Jonathan Glapion,* collecting ***Outsiders #s 32-37.*** (July)

•***Planetary/Batman Deluxe Edition HC*** by *Warren Ellis & John Cassaday.* (June)

•***Power Girl: Bomb Squad TP*** by *Judd Winick & Sami Basri,* collecting ***Power Girl #s 13-18.***

•***Ratchet & Clank TP*** by *T.J. Fixman & Adam Archer,* collecting the six-issue miniseries. (June)

•***Red Robin: Hit List TP*** by *Fabian Nicieza, Marcus To, & Ray McCarthy,* collecting ***Red Robin #s 13-17.*** (June)

•***Resident Evil TP*** by *Ricardo Sanchez & Jeremy Raapack,* collecting the six-issue miniseries. (August)

•***Secret Six: The Reptile Brain TP*** by *Gail Sione, Paul Cornell, J. Calafiore, & Pete Woods,* collecting ***Secret Six #s 25-29*** and ***Action Comics #897.*** (May)

•***Secret Society of Super-VIllains HC*** by *Gerry Conway, Paul Levitz, Pablo Marcos, Arvell Jones, Dick Ayers,* and others, collecting ***Secret Society of Super-Villains #s 1-15, DC Special #27, DC Special Series #6, Super-Team Family #13 & 14, Justice League of America #s 166-168,*** and more. (August)

•***Showcase Presents Doc Savage TP*** by *Doug Moench, John Buscema,* and others, collecting Marvel's black-and-white magazine ***Doc Savage #s 1-8.*** (June)

•***Showcase Presents the Trial of the Flash TP*** by *Cary Bates, Joe Cavalieri, Carmine Infantino,* and others, collecting ***Flash #s 323-327, 329-336, & 340-350.*** (June)

•***Starcraft TP*** by *Simon Furman, Federico Dallocchio,* and others, collecting ***Starcraft #s 1-7.*** (May)

•***The Steve Ditko Omnibus Volume One Starring Shade the Changing Man HC*** by *Steve Ditko* and others, collecting ***Shade the Changing Man #s 1-8, Stalker #s 1-4,*** and stories from ***Strange Adventures, Plop, House of Mystery, House of Secrets, Weird War Tales, Secrets of the Haunted House, Tales of the Unexpected, Time War, Ghosts,*** and ***Mystery in Space.*** (August)

•***Superboy and the Legion of Super-Heroes: The Early Years TP*** by *Paul Levitz, Kevin Sharpe, & Marlo Alquiza,* collecting ***Adventure Comics #s 515-520.*** (May)

•***Superboy: The Boy of Steel TP*** by *Geoff Johns & Francis Manapul,* collecting ***Adventure Comics #s 0-3 & 5-6.*** (May)

•***Supergirl: BizarroGirl TP*** by *Sterling Gates, Jamal Igle,* and others, collecting ***Supergirl #s 53-59*** and ***Supergirl Annual #2.*** (August)

•***Superman: Grounded Volume One HC*** by *J. Michael Straczynski, G. Willow Wilson, Eddy Barrows, J.P.Mayer, & Leandro Oliveira,* collecting ***Superman #s 700-706.*** (August)

•***Superman: New Krypton Volume 4 TP*** by *James Robinson, Greg Rucka, Pete Woods, & Ron Randall,* collecting ***Superman: New Krypton #s 6-12.*** (June)

•***The Superman Chronicles Volume 9 TP*** by *Jerry Siegel, John Sikela,* and others, collecting Superman stories from ***Action #s 47-52, World's Finest #s 6 & 7,*** and ***Superman #s 16-17.*** (June)

•***Superman/Batman: Night and Day TP*** by *Michael Greene, Michael Johnson, Sterling Gates, Francis Manapul, Rafael Albuquerque, Matt Camp, & Marco Rudy,* collecting ***Superman/Batman #s 60-63 & 65-67.*** (August)

•***Team-Ups of the Brave and the Bold TP*** by *J. Michael Straczynski & Jesus Saiz,* collecting ***The Brave & the Bold #s 27-33.*** (August)

•***Tiny Titans: Field Trippin' TP*** by *Art Baltazar & Franco,* collecting ***Tiny Titans #s 26-32.*** (May)

•***Tom Strong and the Robots of Doom TP*** by *Peter Hogan, Chris Sprouse, & Karl Story,* collecting the six-issue miniseries. (May)

•***The Twilight Experiment TP*** by *Justin Gray, Jimmy Palmiotti, & Juan Santacruz,* collecting the six-issue miniseries. (June)

•***Welcome to Tranquility: One Foot in the Grave TP*** by *Gail Simone & Horacio Domingues,* collecting the six-issue miniseries. (July)

•***Wonder Woman: Odyssey Volume 1 HC*** by *J. Michael Straczynski, Don Kramer,* and others, collecting ***Wonder Woman #s 600-606.*** (June)

•***World of Warcraft Book Four TP*** by *Walter Simonson, Louise Simonson, Pop Mhan,* and others, collecting ***World of Warcraft #s 22-25*** and ***World of Warcraft Special.*** (August)

•***The X-Files/30 Days of Night TP*** by *Steve Niles, Adam Jones, & Tom Mandrake,* collecting the six-issue crossover miniseries. (July)

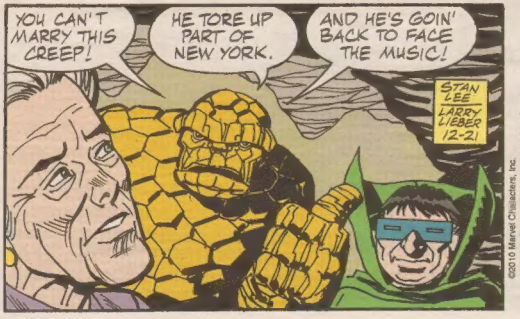
DONG XOAI
VIETNAM 1965
Written and Illustrated by
Joe Kubert

Joe Kubert Library releases include:

•***Dong Xoai, Vietnam 1965 TP*** by *Joe Kubert,* a softcover edition of the original graphic novel. (May)

•***Jew Gangster TP*** by *Joe Kubert,* the first DC edition of the graphic novel. (May)

•***Yossel TP*** by *Joe Kubert,* the first DC edition of the acclaimed graphic novel that postulates what might have happened had


YOU CAN'T MARRY THIS CREEP!
HE TORE UP PART OF NEW YORK.
AND HE'S GOIN' BACK TO FACE THE MUSIC!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 12-21
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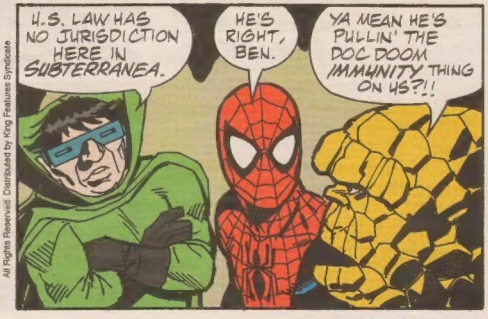


Kubert's parents not been able to bring him to the US prior to WWII. (May)

Vertigo releases slated for spring and summer release include:

•***99 Days HC*** by *Matteo Casali & Kristian Donaldson*, an original Vertigo Crime graphic novel. (June)

•***American Vampire Volume 2 HC*** by *Scott Snyder, Rafael Albuquerque & Mateo Santolouco*, collecting ***American Vampire #s 6-11.*** (May)

•***Cowboys HC*** by *Gary Phillips & Brian Hurtt*, an original Vertigo Crime graphic novel. (July)

•***Dark Rain: A New Orleans Story*** by *Mat Johnson & Simon Gane*, a softcover edition of the original graphic novel. (August)

•***DMZ Volume 10: Collective Punishment TP*** by *Brian Wood, Andrea Mutti, Nathan Fox, Danijel Zezelj, & David Lapham*, collecting ***DMZ #s 55-59.*** (May)

•***The Executor TP*** by *Jon Evans & Andrea Mutti*, a softcover edition of the Vertigo Crime graphic novel. (May)

•***Fables Deluxe Edition Book Three HC*** by *Bill Willingham, Mark Buckingham, Steve Leialoha, Tony Akins, & Jimmy Palmiotti*, collecting ***Fables #s 19-27.*** (August)

•***Fogtown TP*** by *Anderson Gabrich & Brad Rader*, a softcover edition of the Vertigo Crime graphic novel. (August)

•***Hellblazer: Bloody Carnations TP*** by *Peter Milligan, Giuseppe Camuncoli, Stefano Landini, & Simon Bisley*, collecting ***Hellblazer #s 267-275.*** (July)

•***Hellblazer: City of Demons TP*** by *Si Spencer & Sean Murphy*, collecting the five-part miniseries. (May)

•***House of Mystery Volume 6: Safe As Houses TP*** by *Matthew Sturges, Luca Rossi, Phil Noto*, and others, collecting ***House of Mystery #s 26-31.*** (May)

•***Jack of Fables Volume 9: The End TP*** by *Bill Willingham, Matthew Sturges, Tony Akins, & Andrew Pepoy*, collecting ***Jack of Fables #s 46-50.*** (July)

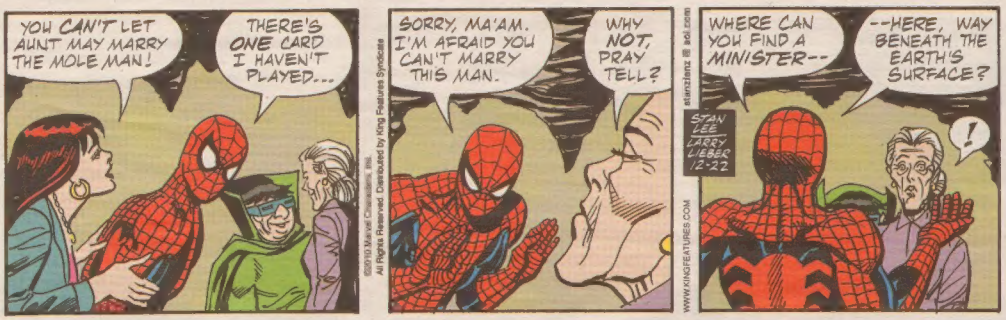
•***Madame Xanadu Volume 4: Extra Sensory TP*** by *Matt Wagner, Amy Reeder*, and others, collecting ***Madame Xanadu #s 24-29.*** (August)

•***Northlanders Volume 5: Metal TP*** by *Brian Wood & Riccardo Burchielli*, collecting ***Northlanders #s 29-36.*** (July)

•***Preacher Book Four HC*** by *Garth Ennis, Steve Dillon*, and others, collecting ***Preacher #s 34-40, Preacher Special: One Man's War, Preacher Special: The Good Old Boys,*** and ***Preacher Special: The Story of You-Know-Who.*** (June)

•***Return to Perdition HC*** by *Max Allan Collins & Terry Beatty*, an original Vertigo Crime graphic novel and the third book in their ***Perdition*** series (which began with ***The Road to Perdition***). (August)

•***Revolver TP*** by *Matt Kindt*, a softcover edi-


YOU CAN'T LET AUNT MAY MARRY THE MOLE MAN!
THERE'S ONE CARD I HAVEN'T PLAYED...
SORRY, MA'AM. I'M AFRAID YOU CAN'T MARRY THIS MAN.
WHY NOT, PRAY TELL?
WHERE CAN YOU FIND A MINISTER--
--HERE, WAY BENEATH THE EARTH'S SURFACE?
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER '22
!
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COVER STORY

PREVIEWS
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dollhouse
IN A CITY OF MILLIONS, MANY SOULS GET LOST...

DOLLHOUSE: EPITAPHS
Dark Horse Comics
Maurissa Tancharoen and Jed Whedon — the writers who penned the final, post-apocalyptic episode of **Dollhouse** — continue the tale of three survivors in a world overcome by a devastating technological virus!

WAR OF THE GREEN LANTERNS: GREEN LANTERN #64
DC Comics
The "War of the Green Lanterns" ignites as a malevolent force captures the power batteries, leaving Hal Jordan, Guy Gardner, Kyle Rayner, John Stewart and Sinestro the only Lanterns left to regain control and save the universe!

420+ pages of cool stuff that starts shipping in March!

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CHECK THESE OUT IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE:

Axe Cop: Bad Guy Earth #1
Written by a six-year-old, drawn by a 30-year-old, webcomic sensation **Axe Cop** has everything you could want in a comic book: explosions, gunplay, an axe-wielding rogue cop and a dinosaur sidekick! Let the Bros. Nicolle — Malachai & Ethan — blow your mind with their awesome!

Xombi #1
You can't keep a good *Xombi* down! The immortal David Kim — kept "alive" by nanotech enhancements — returns to the DC Universe in a new ongoing series from writer/creator John Rozum and hot *Batman and Robin* artist, Frazer Irving!

Godzilla: Monster World #1
Eric Powell (*The Goon*), Tracy Marsh, and artist Phil Hester, bring the King of the Monsters back to comics — for the first time ever accompanied by a host of his fellow Toho Studios kaiju!

Elephantmen: Man & Elephantman #1
Hip Flask awakens one morning to find everything is not as it seems... this is a great introductory issue for new readers — courtesy of writer/creator Richard Starkings and artist Axel Medellin!

Venom #1
The lethal alien symbiote known as **Venom** is in the custody of the U.S. military... and now the government's own personal Spidey is going into action as one of the nation's top covert agents — courtesy of Rick Remender and Tony Moore!

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tion of the acclaimed original graphic novel. (July)

•***Saga of the Swamp Thing Book Five HC*** by *Alan Moore, Rick Veitch, John Totleben, & Alfredo Alcala,* collecting ***Swamp Thing #s 51-56.*** (June)

•***Stuck Rubber Baby TP*** by *Howard Cruse,* a softcover edition of the acclaimed graphic novel. (June)

•***Sweet Tooth Volume 3: Animal Armies TP*** by *Jeff Lemire,* collecting ***Sweet Tooth #s 12-17.*** (June)

•***Unknown Soldier Volume 4: Beautiful World TP*** by *Joshua Dysart, Alberto Ponticelli, & Rick Veitch,* collecting ***Unknown Soldier #s 21-25.*** (May)

•***We3 Deluxe Edition HC*** by *Grant Morrison & Frank Quitely,* an expanded compilation of ***We3 #s 1-3.*** (June)

CSNsider

•***Charismagic,*** a new Aspen Comics by *Vince Hernandez & Khary Randolph,* is a magical fantasy series set in the magical realm of Las Vegas, Nevada, where luck is everything. But Hank the Magnificent's luck as Vegas' most illustrious and famous magician is about to run out! When an ancient magic long imprisoned in another realm springs forth into our reality, Hank soon finds himself at the center of an undying war between the forces of truth and a devastating plague of growing evil—and his hopes for survival are slim at best! Creatures of magic and myth, wizards and sorcerers, druids, witches, and beasts of legend prove that what happens in Vegas may not stay in Vegas at all... but may instead terrorize an entire world unless Hank can stop it! The first issue is slated for March release.

•*Mark Waid* is stepping down from his job as Chief Creative Officer at Boom Studios. "I learned a lot in my time at Boom about the ever-evolving job of publishing comics in the 21st century, and it's been an invaluable experience," Waid said. "But now that Boom is in a strong place with its best foothold ever in the market, it's time for me to refocus my energies on writing and on creating."

While Waid is departing the executive team at Boom, he will continue writing all three of his current Boom titles: ***Irredeemable, Incorruptible,*** and ***Stan Lee's Traveler.***

•***Soulfire*** rejoins Aspen's line in March, courtesy of *J.T. Krul & Jason Fabok.* As ***Soulfire Volume 3 #0*** begins, the once-strong bond between Malikai, Grace, and friends, which forged the return of magic into our world, is deteriorating following the cataclysmic battle with Rainier and his forces. However, the struggle between magic and technology still wages on... but Malikai, the bearer of the light, is nowhere to be found--can magic survive the latest onslaught from an unwelcome world?

•The seventy-year-old ***Brenda Starr*** comic strip has ended its syndicated run as of January 2nd. Created by *Dale Messick,* the strip has only been produced by women during its seven-decade run; Messick retired in 1980 and was followed by *Ramona Fradon, Linda Sutter, Mary Schmich,* and *June Brigman.* Alas, ***Brenda Starr*** was one of the few continuing adventure strips still published in the 21st century.

For those who'd like to find out what the strip was like in its glory days, Hermes Press will release the 288-page ***Brenda Starr, Reporter by Dale Messick: The Collected Daily and Sunday Newspaper Strip Volume One*** in June. The first volume of this series will reprint, for the first time, the first two Sunday storylines in full color. Hermes Press is digitally restoring these Sundays so that they look better than when they were first released. Also featured in this volume will be the first "Man of Mystery" story featuring Brenda's love interest, Basil St. John. ***Brenda Starr, Reporter*** started on June 30, 1940, as a Sunday-only strip, but on October 22, 1945, a daily version of the feature was added. The first daily sequence will also be featured in the first volume of Hermes Press' reprint.

•***Driver Special #1*** has been cancelled and will be resolicited at a later time to coincide with the releaes of the game.

•No, you *didn't* miss DC Direct's ***Superman Forever Mini-Statue, Batman: The Dark Crusader Mini-Statue, Dragon Age Series 1 Action Figures,*** or ***Blackest Night Series 8 Action Figures.*** They've all been delayed until late January—but they *are* on the way!

•Move over, Iron Man, and make roo for a new Armored Avenger (or would that be an Armored New Avenger?) as Spidey dons his new Spider-Armor in ***Amazing Spider-Man #656.*** But what kind of foe would prompt Spidey to trade in his old red-and-blue duds for such high-tech protection? *Dan Slott & Marcos Martin* reveal all in March!

•Marvel has announced five high-profile limited series that will be released at the $2.99 pricepoint. ***Captain America: Hail Hydra, Wolverine and Jubilee, Arcade: Death Game, Hawkeye: Blind Spot,*** and ***5 Ronin*** will all carry the lower price. "Based on the feedback we've received from both retailers and fans, there's a definite desire for limited series like ***Captain America: Hail Hydra*** or ***Hawkeye: Blind Spot*** to be priced at $2.99 per issue," Senior Vice President of Sales *David Gabriel* said. "We're extremely impressed with the stories our writers and artists want to tell, and we're committed to providing these book for a great price."

Grounded Writer Flying High!

While legions of fans of *J. Michael Straczynski's* ***Superman*** were sad to hear that the popular writer would no longer be scripting the Man of Steel's "Grounded" saga after ***Superman #705,*** *Chris Roberson's* reaction was a bit more mixed. Roberson, who has long dreamed of writing Superman's exploits, was the writer tapped to complete the story arc from JMS's plots.

Roberson, best known to readers for his work on Vertigo's ***iZombie*** series and on Boom Studios' ***Stan Lee's Starborn,*** was as surprised as anyone when he was chosen to complete the twelve-part saga. As it turns out, his opportunity to take over ***Superman*** grew out of a fill-in story arc he did for ***Superman/Batman.*** "*Matt Idelson* and *Wil Moss,* the editors on the Superman titles, had offered me the chance to do a fill-in for ***Superman/Batman*** a couple of months ago, and I *jumped* at the opportunity," Roberson told ***Comic Shop Newsarama's*** *Vaneta Rogers.* "They apparently liked my first script enough that, when it came time to find a replacement for JMS, they gave me a call and asked if I would be interested in taking over ***Superman*** from JMS with Issue #707. As a Superman *fanatic* since I was six years old, I didn't have to think about it for a single second, but immediately took the job.

Readers of my novels and of my work for Vertigo and Boom! Studios might not be able to figure out my leanings, but anyone who visits my blog or reads my Twitter feed or meets me in person will realize right away that I am a *huge* superhero fan, and a fanatic about Superman in particular. Superman has been my favorite character since I was six years old, and I have more comics featuring Superman than any other single character."

Roberson didn't have to do any "catch-up" reading to familiarize himself with Straczynski's ***Superman*** run. "I'd been following 'Grounded' since the beginning, and right away I realized that it shared the same central idea as one of my favorite Superman stories of all time: *Elliot S. Maggin's* 'Must There Be A Superman.' The question of what Superman's role in society should be has always been a crucial one, and is itself a reflection of a problem that religions have always struggled with: 'If there is a merciful god, why is there suffering?'' And it makes perfect sense that it is a question that Superman would be asking himself, in the wake of his father's death and the destruction of New Krypton."

Roberson sees an added benefit to landing his first ongoing DCU writing assignment. "I'm just glad that I've been given the opportunity to put my encyclopedic knowledge of the DCU to good use! I can finally justify the countless thousands of hours I've spent reading DC comics as 'research.'"

Although Roberson is scripting the book, he's not plotting the story; instead, he's working from the storyline that Straczynski had mapped out when he first took over ***Superman.*** "When I signed onto the book," Roberson said, "Matt and Wil sent me JMS' outline for the remainder of 'Grounded.' It maps out the places that Superman will visit on his cross-country journey, and in terms of story, spells out a very definite end-point that he needs to reach. But along the way, there's lots of room for side-trips and improvisation."

For Roberson, there is no better assignment he could have asked for than

OH, DEAR... WE CAN'T MARRY WITHOUT SOMEONE TO OFFICIATE.
THAT'S TRUE, MY DEAR.
LUCKY YOU THOUGHT OF THAT, TIGER!
STAN LEE
LARRY LIEBER
12-23
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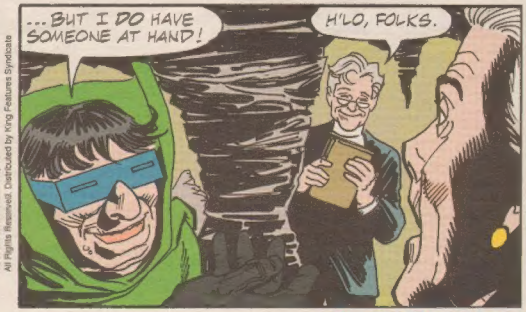

Superman. "Superman is the archetype. He is *the* superhero. And I honestly view the job of writing the flagship ***Superman*** title as a sacred trust."

Roberson is taking over Superman at a crisis point in his superhero career. "At this point in the 'Grounded' storyline, Superman has pretty much completely lost faith in the things he's always stood for: Truth, Justice, and the American Way," Roberson said. "Physically, he's just as powerful as he's always been, but after the death of his adoptive father and the destruction of New Krypton, he's an emotional wreck.

"The way I see it, what he's *really* doing in this walk across America is revisiting the kinds of places where he had his earliest formative experiences, and trying to answer one crucial question: 'Must there be a Superman?'"

Does Roberson plan to continue with ***Superman*** once "Grounded" wraps? "That's for the 'powers that be' at DC to decide," Roberson said. "For the moment, I'm just delighted to be writing this story!"

Superman #707, a $2.99 book, is scheduled for January 12th release.

Lone Wolverine & Cubs

"You got superheroes in my samurai epic!"

"You got samurai in my superhero adventure!"

Marvel, confident that these are two popular fiction tastes that taste great together, is combining samurai adventure and five of its most popular heroes in ***5 Ronin,*** a weekly limited series written by *Peter Milligan* and illustrated by *Tomm Coker, Dalibor Talajic, Laurence Campbell, Goran Parlov, & Leandro Fernandez. David Aja* will supply covers for each issue, while *John Cassaday, Mark Brooks, Giuseppe Camuncoli, David Mack, Ed McGuinness* will each illustrate a variant cover.

"What would the ultimate samurai super hero epic look like? The answer is ***5 Ronin,***" editor *Sebastian Girner* said. "When we came up with the idea of taking our biggest heroes and setting them in this time period, writer *Peter Milligan* and the amazingly talented cast of artists immediately jumped on board. This is easily one of the most beautiful comics you will read this year."

Wolverine. Psylocke. The Punisher. Hulk. Deadpool. Bound together by the same fate, yet alone in their existence, they are forced to walk the lonely path of the master-less samurai in the violent world of feudal Japan. Each of the five seeks revenge—but against whom? And what powerful secret connects these lone warriors? The answers will be revealed in March.

Annihilators Assemble!

The Silver Surfer! Beta-Ray Bill! Gladiator! Quasar! Ronan the Accuser! Marvel's mightiest cosmic heroes join forces this March in the oversized ***Annihilators #1*** four-issue limited series. Marvel's space action masters *Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning* join with Eisner Award winning artist *Tan Eng Huat* to introduce the only team mighty enough to face the Dire Wraiths!

"The Annihilators is the cosmic dream team… the biggest hitters forming the most powerful super-team in the known Universe!" Abnett and Lanning said. "Prepare to feel the Cosmos shake!"

"We picked the top flight, first class heroes," Lanning added at marvel.com. "The wish list; the A-grade, to contrast with the mavericks and misfits of [Guardians of the Galaxy]. This is the anti-Guardians—though their primary role is the same, and they're essentially the Guardians' legacy."

With galactic civilization in disarray after The Thanos Imperative, the Annihilators must band together to prevent the sinister shape-shifting horde from destroying the universe itself. Innocent worlds teeter on the precipice of destruction… so it's time for the best of the best to unite and unleash righteous justice!

Each issue of ***Annihilators*** will feature two full-length stories—that's over forty pages of all-new content in each book! While Abnett, Lanning, and Huat will handle the lead story, the second story will feature Rocket Raccoon and Groot in an adventure written by Abnett and Lanning and illustrated by *Timothy Green II.*

"Take the assembled majesty of Marvel's most powerful heroes, add on the cult-fave duo of Rocket Raccoon and Groot, pile on a ridiculous amount of writing and artistic talent, and top it all off with cool covers by *Alex Garner* and the one and only *Mike Mignola,*" editor *Bill Rosemann* said. "That, True Believers, is a recipe for face-melting, brain-frying, pedal-to-the-metal, that's-why-I-read-comics awesomeness."

The Annihilators #1, a $4.99 comic, is slated for March release.

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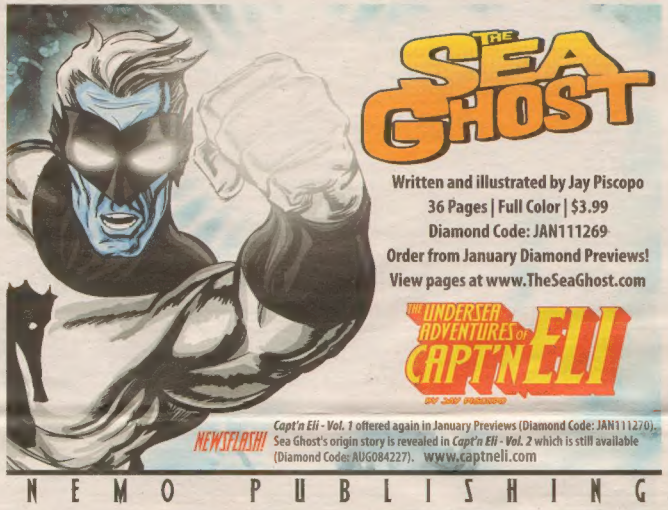
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Sea Ghost's origin story is revealed in Capt'n Eli - Vol. 2 which is still available
(Diamond Code: AUG084227). www.captneli.com
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ARE YOU A REAL MINISTER?
YES, INDEED. QUITE REAL.
THE MOLE MAN MADE A LARGE DONATION TO MY CHURCH FOR ME TO COME HERE.
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 12-24
BUT SURELY HIS JURISDICTION DOESN'T EXTEND TO--
FORGET IT. MOLEY'S GOT ALL THE ACES.
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HEY, WEBHEAD-- YOU GONNA LET THAT CREEP MARRY THE OLD DAME?
IF YOU ASK ME-- IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME!
COOL IT, MAN. NOTHING WE CAN DO.
WE CAN'T TELL MISS PARKER WHO TO MARRY!
EVEN THOUGH I'M SURE SHE'S MAKING A HUGE MISTAKE!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 12-25
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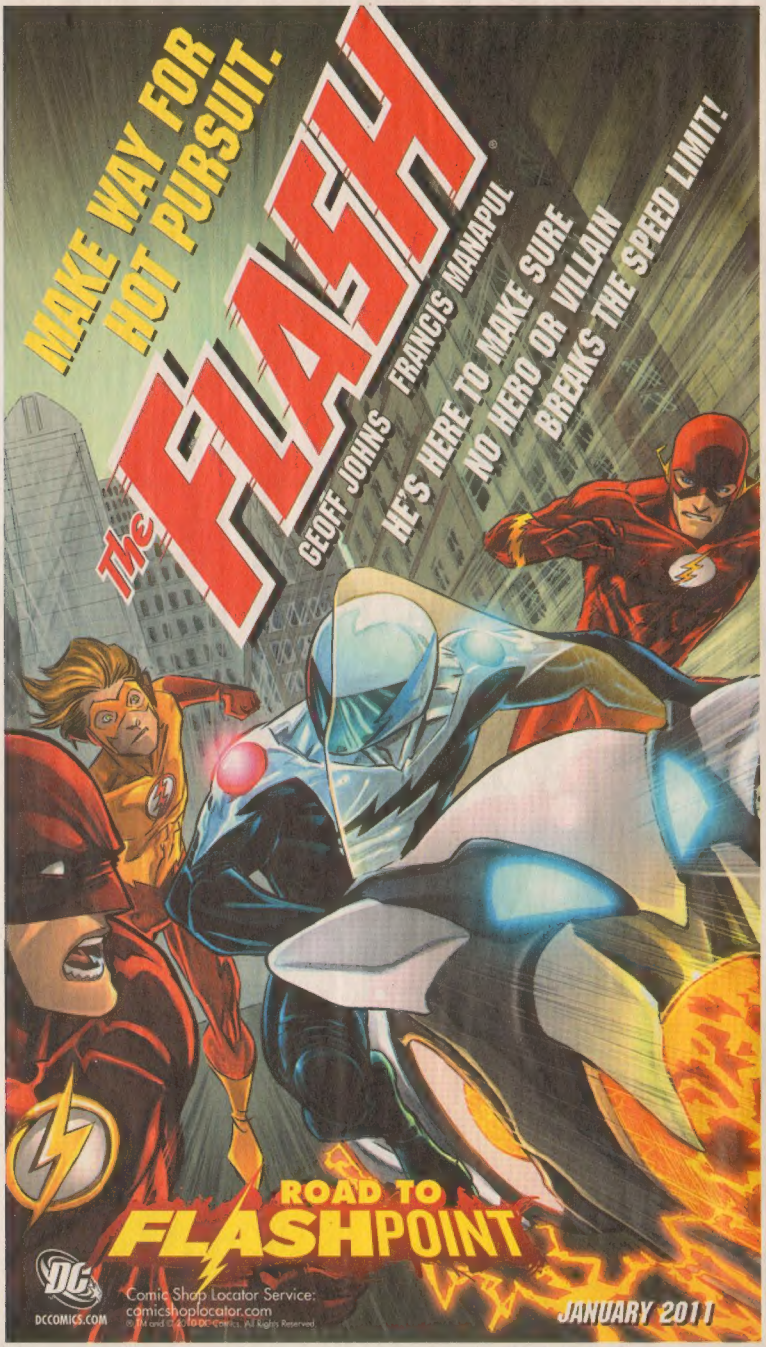

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